

**Hillside Federation
Minutes
October 1, 2014**

I. Call to Order

President Marian Dodge called the meeting to order at 7:15pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Candidate Forum

LA County 3rd Supervisory District

Shelia Kuehl was introduced by President Marian Dodge. Ms. Kuehl gave introductory comments on her background and political experience emphasizing her work in the California State Assembly and Senate. She also noted her three priorities once elected as a County Supervisor: (1) foster kids—improved care, education, etc.; (2) health care—improved county facilities, etc.; (3) transportation—focus on getting people out of their cars, and using public transportation. She highlighted the train route from the Valley south to the airport area.

Questions from the Audience

1. How can the County help with City issues?

Ms. Kuehl: The County can help negotiate on issues such as earthquake faults, wildlife corridors, rodenticides, etc. because these are not just City issues. She emphasized the need to bring jurisdictions together to solve issues which included several cities and the county. She also recommended setting up a task force specifically to work broad issues involving the multiple cities within the County.

2. Is the County in better fiscal shape than LA City?

Ms. Kuehl: Yes, definitely. The longevity of County officials versus City officials has helped—there is much more turnover in City government. The County has issued bonds for pensions and has been good at working with the unions.

3. What is the state of CEQA?

Ms. Kuehl: She stated that she is a strong supporter of CEQA and that it should not be weakened in any way. She suggested to shorten the time to adjudicate CEQA issues. She also noted the use of special masters like other counties have done to help resolve CEQA-related issues.

4. Why is there little community involvement in the Ford Theater modifications? They did an EIR that no one knew about and it affects wildlife corridors and trails.

Ms. Kuehl: She thinks that “plans” are not completely done. She noted that there will be amendments and thus, an opportunity for more comment periods. She believed there is still ample time for real opportunity for community comments.

5. What is the County’s relationship with the City Council?

Ms. Kuehl: It is dismal right now. She stated that she knows a number of the City Council people and she wants a new day of collaboration. There are several opportunities for collaboration including child services, health care, etc.

6. Do you have any comment on the excessive number of LAPD/LAFD Officers on sick leave.

Ms. Keuhl: The County Supervisor has a Justice Deputy that will look into this situation.

7. What is your position regarding Zev’s emphasis on Open Space?

Ms. Keuhl: She noted that she has work experience to get more Open Space in parts of the Santa Monica Mountains, and is going to keep it up.

8. What is your position regarding the build out/up near transit lines? Do you support increased density now or later?

Ms. Keuhl: People can afford to live in smaller units. She stated that the transportation needs to be “nearly in place” before increased housing. The future of LA will be more urban, but with less traffic. California could benefit a lot from the Fast Train concept.

9. What is the difference between Sheila Keuhl and Bobby Shriver?

Ms. Keuhl: She believes that she has more experience and has represented this district for years. The elected candidate will have to “hit the ground running” to deal with health care, transportation, pensions, etc.

10. Can you comment on the projected turnout for the election?

Ms. Keuhl: The turnout will be low—the election of Governor is predetermined and there are not big initiative issues.

11. Do you have any comments on SCAG (Southern California Association of Governments)?

Ms. Keuhl: The 88 cities don't want to work together. These cities should work together to be more effective in getting federal grants, etc.

Bobby Shriver was represented by **John Duran**, who was introduced by President Marian Dodge. Bobby Shriver had a prior commitment and could not attend. Mr. Duran is a member of the West Hollywood City Council.

Questions from the Audience

1. What is Bobby's view on CEQA?

Mr. Duran: There is a special magistrate and there is a need for affordable housing.

2. The Governor tried to gut CEQA for the 8150 Sunset Project—do you have any comment?

Mr. Duran: He stated that expediting the CEQA process is good.

3. What is your opinion on the several projects on Sunset Blvd in LA City?

Mr. Duran: He declined to comment stating that he had no knowledge of these projects.

4. Isn't there a need for a more balanced development?

Mr. Duran: He stated that Bobby Shriver supports the CEQA concept.

Helicopter Noise Relief—Bob Anderson

Bob Anderson provided a presentation that is available on the Hillside Federation website. He noted that the next 3 months are critical in moving things forward. The FAA is generally not that interested and LA is the most complex airspace in the US. There are no helicopter flight paths, no complaint system, no environmental studies, and no database of the pilots and the owners. The goal is to have a tri-party agreement on noise reduction among the FAA, pilots, and residents, with enforcement and commitment to collaborate. Best Practices Working Group, Pilot Outreach Working Group, Cahuenga Pass/Griffith Park Working Group, South Bay Routes Working Group, and Long Beach

Working Group have all been established. See LAHelicopterNoise.org.

II. Approval of Minutes

There were two corrections offered for the Minutes. The correct adjournment time was 9:55pm. Alan Dymond offered a correction on his report on the Studio City Senior Living Center development. The Minutes were approved as corrected.

III. Officer's Reports

A. President's Report—Marian Dodge

The SAMO Fund (Santa Monica Mountains Fund) held an event yesterday in Malibu and National Geographic photographer Steve Winter showed pictures of P-22. Proceeds from the event are going to mountain lion research.

There are a number of free women's self-defense workshops hosted by Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian, LAPD, Bright Star ATA Martial Arts, and the North Hollywood Recreation Center. These workshops will occur during the month of October and November at various locations in the Valley.

Assemblymember Mike Gatto's "Legislative Year in Review" Town Hall Meeting will be on October 9, 2014 from 7pm to 8pm at the Crescenta-Canada YNCA, 1930 Foothill Blvd., La Canada Flintridge, CA 91011.

AB 2222, an amendment to SB 1818 reported in last month's minutes, was signed by Governor Brown.

In the upcoming election, there will be two ballot initiatives of importance to our hillside environment: Proposition P would extend Proposition A funding for parks, and Proposition 1 to establish a statewide Water Bond. There will be community workshops to educate the public on these initiatives and the Hillside Federation has been asked to co-sponsor a workshop.

MOTION: Charley Mims moved that the Hillside Federation co-sponsor a workshop so long as there is no financial commitment. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Treasurer's Report—Don Andres

All expenses have been paid and there is one outstanding homeowners association still owing dues.

The Hillside Federation Holiday Party is Thursday, December 11th at the Mulholland Tennis Club. It is time to get the word out to your Neighborhood Associations. The Executive Committee will be meeting soon to discuss the honorees for

this year.

IV. New Business

A. Baseline Hillside Ordinance Amendments.

Council Motion 14-1059 was approved, which requires the Department of Building & Safety and the Bureau of Street Services to report their recommendations to PLUM in 90 days.

B. CEQA Guidelines & SB 743.

There is an effort underway to change the focus of transportation impact studies based on vehicle-miles-of-travel (VMT) as opposed to the current level of service (LOS). The new model analyzes street segment impacts instead of how many cars get through an intersection. It is supposed to be a more accurate way of analyzing traffic impacts. Comment period ends October 10, 2014.

V. Old Business

A. 6459 Innsdale Drive—Sheila Irani

Zoning Administrator Charlie Rausch has denied several of the applicant's request for deviations from the LA Municipal Code and the applicant has appealed his decisions. It was requested that the Hillside Federation provide a letter of support.

MOTION: Wendy-Sue Rosen moved that the Hillside Federation provide a letter supporting the decisions by the Zoning Administrator, Charlie Rausch. The motion passed unanimously.

B. 8150 Sunset Blvd—Marian Dodge

There will be a fundraiser on November 11, 2014, at Chateau Marmont to raise money to help fund opposition to the size and scale of the 8150 Sunset Blvd. project. It was also noted that the website www.WEHOHeights.com has information on developments in West Hollywood.

C. Studio City Senior Living Center—Alan Dymond

Marian attended a meeting hosted by the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC). There is opposition to this project since it would destroy part of the LA River

Natural Park plan for the Weddington Golf and Tennis Courts, which has been used for public recreation since 1974. The park plan is part of the LA River Revitalization Plan. The SCNC is 100% opposed to the project, as are Senator Fran Pavley, The Trust for Public Land, Save Coldwater Canyon, and many others. Currently the community is collecting postcards to send to Councilmember Krekorian. Two thousand postcards have been collected so far. The Draft EIR deadline has just passed. The Studio City Residents Association submitted a 69-page comment letter, which can be accessed at www.studiocityresidents.org.

D. 10220 Scenario Lane—Katherine Bard

The Residents of Beverly Glen are concerned with density, slope stability, lack of access for emergency vehicles, and other negative impacts as a result of this proposed project. They are meeting with Councilmember Koretz to discuss problems with the project and will keep us informed.

E. 11767 Bellagio Drive—Bruce Kuyper

The approval of five units versus the six originally proposed by the developer in this. Small Lot Subdivision project is being appealed by local resident Bruce Kuyper. An appeal will be heard by the Area Planning Commission on October 15.

MOTION: Wendy-Sue Rosen/Charley Mims moved that the Federation support Mr. Kuyper's appeal based on the concern that the Community Plan must be upheld. The motion passed unanimously.

The next Hillside Federation meeting will be November 5, 2014 at the PINZ Bowling Center.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Don Andres
Acting Recording Secretary

Members Present:

Bel Air Skycrest	Mark Stratton
	Lois Becker

Brentwood Hills	John Given
Brentwood Residents	Wendy-Sue Rosen
Cahuenga Pass POA	Steven Kates
Canyon Back Alliance	Tom Freeman
Franklin Av/Hlwd Blvd	Don Andres
	Yvonne Hessler
Kagel Canyon	Kit Paull
Lake Hollywood	Sheila Irani
Laurel Canyon	Tony Tucci
Los Feliz Impvmt.	Marian Dodge
Oaks Homeowners	Gerry Hans
Resid. Beverly Glen	Stephen Benson
	Katherine Bard
Roscomare Valley	Steve Twining
Sherman Oaks	Elke Heitmeyer
Studio City Res. Assn	Alan Dymond

Claudia Freedle

Guests Present:

3rd Supervisorial Dist forum

candidate	Sheila Kuehl
	Madeleine Moore
candidate rep	John Duran (West Hollywood City Council)

Beverly Glen/Basil Ln	Ruth Sahean
	Cynthia Ford
Sherman Oaks	Bob Anderson
West Hollywood Heights Assn	
	Elyse Eisenberg
Holmby/W'wood POA	Joan Marcy
Las Virgenes Fed	Kim Lamorie
CA Women's Law Ctr.	Betsy Butler
Bellagio/Moraga	Bruce Kuyper